

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6 are pending in the application. Claims 2-5 are canceled. Claims 1 and 6 are rejected. Claim 1 is amended hereby.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1 and 6 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 6,599,364 (Mendez-Gallon), which is the patent which issued from the parent application of the present application, Applicant has filed herewith an appropriate terminal disclaimer.

Additionally, claim 1 is amended to recite in part: "said vacuum generating device providing a vacuum generally in said region of incidence firmly attaching the application medium to the fiber material web, said vacuum of a predetermined value only high enough so that said vacuum accelerates an adhesion of the application medium to the material web" to further distinguish the present invention from the prior art.

An advantage of the present invention is that only a very low suction output from the vacuum generating source is required.

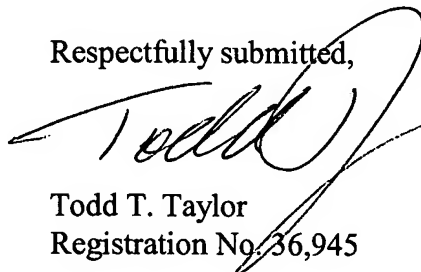
For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1, and claim 6 depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. The pending claims are therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on: December 9, 2004.

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Name of Registered Representative



Signature

December 9, 2004

Date